



## MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

**Description of proposal:** Middle Ground HWD Timber Sale, App. No. 84035, and Forest Practice Application No. 2810812. Even-aged harvest of 1,520 MBF of timber from 93.9 acres and uneven-aged harvest of 61 MBF of timber from 8.5 acres for a total harvest of 1,581 MBF from 102.4 (102) acres. Proposal includes 528 feet of road reconstruction, up to 6,858 feet of temporary road construction (to be built, then abandoned after completion of use) and 7,780 feet of existing road abandonment.

**Description of mitigation:** See attached sheet.

**Proponent:** Department of Natural Resources.

**Location of proposal, including street address, if any:** Sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, and 32 of Township 40 North, Range 05 East, W.M. Proposal is located 7 miles east of Deming, in Whatcom County, off of Highway 542, Highway 547, South Pass Road, Paradise Valley Road, and SA-1000, SA-1800, and U-1000 forest roads.

**Lead agency:** Department of Natural Resources.

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

☒ This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from September 9, 2009. Comments must be submitted by September 23, 2009.

**Responsible official:** William J. Wallace

**Position/title:** Northwest Region Manager **Phone:** 360-856-3500

**Address:** 919 North Township Street, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** William Wallace

**There is no agency SEPA appeal.**

11/09/00

## MITIGATED MEASURES

### **Middle Ground HWD Timber Sale, App. No. 84035**

#### Streams:

- 5 type 3 streams with a 128-foot buffer.
- 2 type 3 streams with a 144-foot buffer.
- 1 type 3 stream with a 145-foot buffer.
- 1 type 3 stream with a 154-foot buffer.
- 9 type 4 streams with a 100-foot, no-harvest buffer, except for timber removal associated with new right of way construction through 2 streams.

Type 3 streams associated with Unit #1 have no-harvest buffers except for timber removal associated with new right of way construction to cross one stream. Type 3 streams associated with Unit #2 will receive a conifer release thinning treatment and maintain a 25-foot, no-harvest inner core zone, as well as remove timber associated with new right of way construction to cross one type 3 stream.

#### Wetlands:

- 1 forested wetland, greater than 0.25 acre but less than 1.0 acre in size, with a 100-foot, no-harvest buffer.
- 3 forested wetland<sup>3</sup>, greater than 1.0 acre in size, with a 154-foot, no harvest buffer.

A short section (~100 feet) of new road construction will pass through the 2 northern WMZ's and will remove ½-acre of standing mature timber. An equal area mitigation has been completed.

#### Slope Stability:

Potentially unstable areas were bounded out of this proposal.

#### Roads:

Exposed soils on cut and fill slopes will be revegetated to lessen sediment impact to streams. Dust abatement will occur on the SA-1000 road while hauling operations are active. 7,780 feet of existing road will be abandoned after completion of use. 6,858 feet of road will be abandoned after completion of use, if built.

#### Green tree retention and wildlife:

An average of eight of the existing trees per acre has been designated to be left uncut on this proposal. Trees are both scattered and clumped throughout the proposed harvest area.

#### Logging methods:

Proposal will be yarded by cable and ground-based systems. Leading end of logs will be suspended during yarding.